

*September 12, 2006*

## **Iowa To Allow Its Citizens Overseas to Vote Absentee by Fax and Email**

Iowa announces a new initiative that allows overseas *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*, citizens to request, receive and return absentee ballots via facsimile and email. Iowa will now accept email requests for absentee ballots and process email ballots returned through the Defense Department's Electronic Transmission Service. To request registration and/or an absentee ballot, the local County Auditor must receive your FPCA by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. Citizens wishing to receive their blank ballot via fax or email should denote this on the ballot request and include a current fax number or email address.

Emailed voted ballots must be sent to [ets@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:ets@fvap.ncr.gov) and faxed voted ballots must be sent to 703-693-5527, 1-800-368-8683, DSN 223-5527 and to FVAPs toll-free fax numbers from outside of the United States and Canada at <http://www.fvap.gov/services/faxing.html>.

Emailed or faxed ballots must be received back by the county elections office before 9:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on election day, November 7, 2006. Citizens should be sure to email or fax the entire ballot including any oath or signature required on the ballot-mailing envelope. After faxing or emailing, all election materials must also be returned by postal mail.

Citizens should be aware that by emailing or by faxing the voted ballot they are waiving the right to secrecy of their vote for this election and must sign a waiver that will be included in the emailed or faxed ballot materials. Refer to Appendix C of the *2006-2007 Voting Assistance Guide* (located at <http://www.fvap.gov/services/faxing.html> for instructions, toll-free fax numbers, and a cover sheet (which includes a secrecy waiver) for use when transmitting the voted ballot by email or by fax.

Overseas UOCAVA citizens may send ballots back by fax or email **only if** it is not feasible to return the ballot by mail by the Iowa postal deadline of noon November 13, 2006.

For more information please visit <http://www.sos.state.ia.us/> or email [sos@sos.state.ia.us](mailto:sos@sos.state.ia.us).

For assistance, you may contact an FVAP staff member through the DoD Voting Information Center (VIC). The VIC also provides recorded messages from candidates, as well as other information concerning elections, 24 hours a day. Citizens may reach the VIC toll-free using the toll-free numbers listed on the FVAP website, <http://www.fvap.gov/services/tollfree.html>. In the U.S. or Canada call 1-800-438-VOTE (8683) or local (703) 588-1343 or use DSN (military) 425-1343.

Questions regarding the above may also be referred to the Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program, Department of Defense, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington DC 20301-1155. Additionally, the FVAP can be reached via e-mail at [vote@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.ncr.gov) and on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fvap.gov/>.